

# Saved



# Saved

- **Election**
- **Eternal security**
- **Ending life by suicide**
- **Eternal conscious torment vs. annihilation**

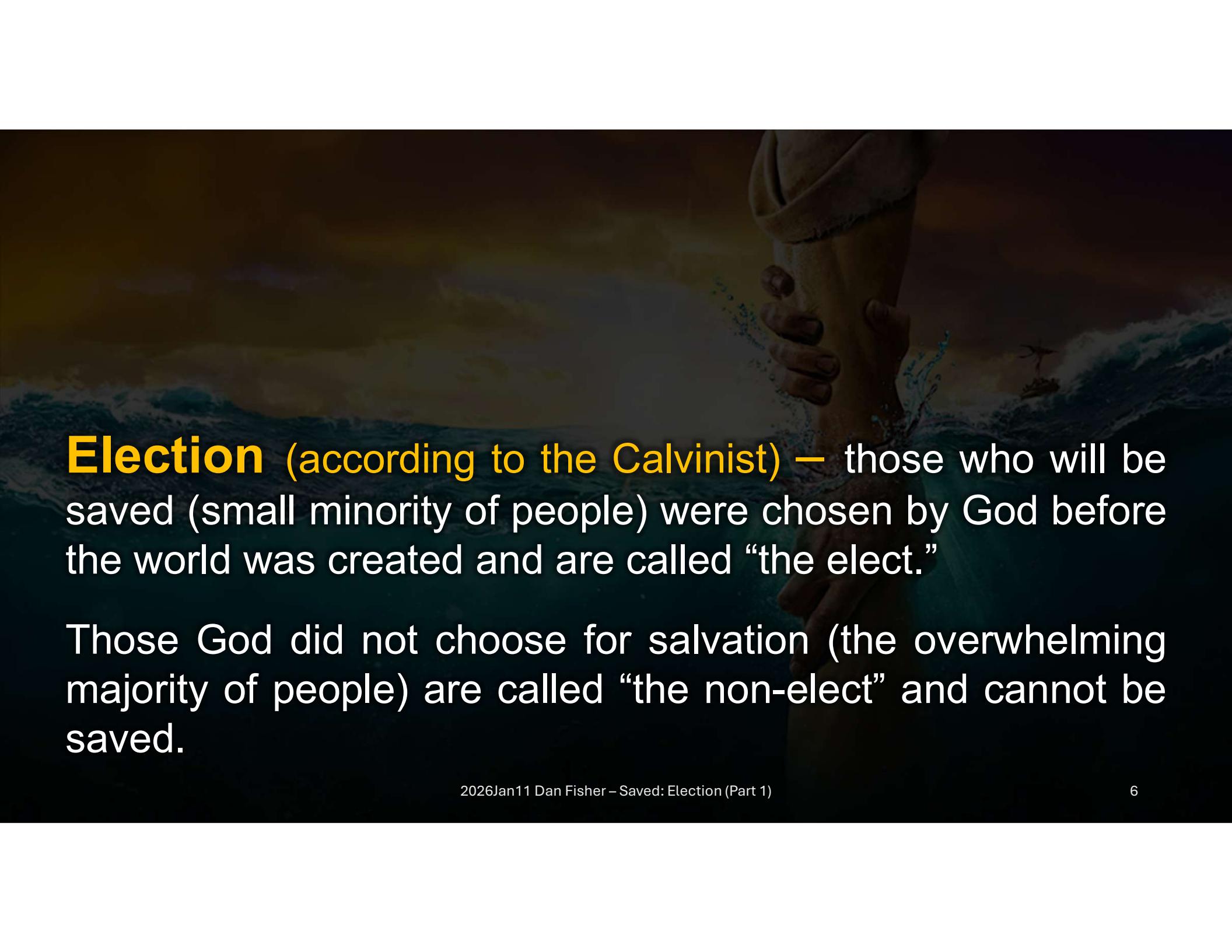
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From what – for what – to what

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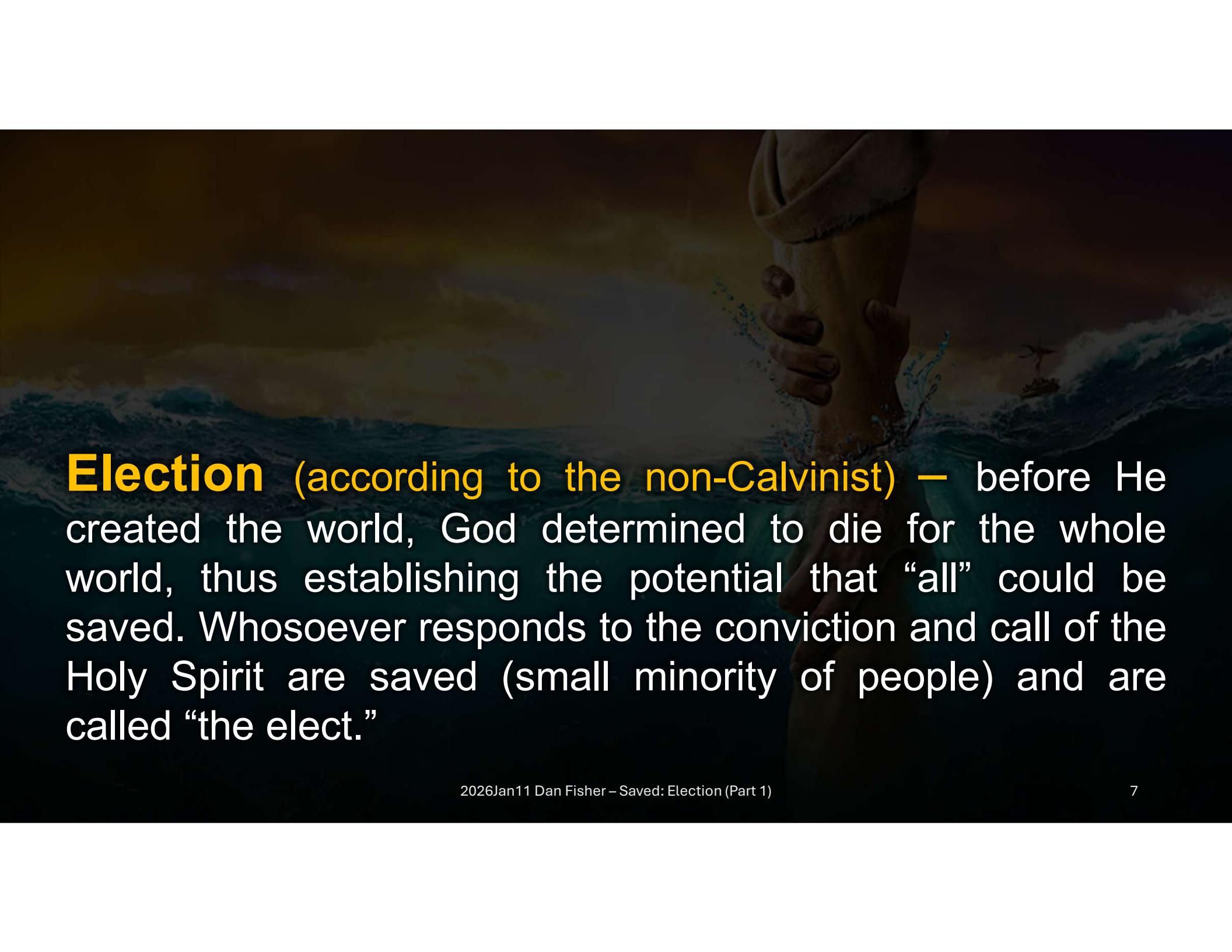
- **From our sins**
- **For fellowship with God**
- **To do good works in His name**

# Election

A hand is shown pouring sand from a漏斗 (dowser) into a jar. The漏斗 is held above a small pile of sand in the jar. The background is a dark, textured surface, possibly a wall or a piece of fabric. The lighting is dramatic, with the sand and the漏斗 being the primary lighted elements.

**Election** (according to the Calvinist) — those who will be saved (small minority of people) were chosen by God before the world was created and are called “the elect.”

Those God did not choose for salvation (the overwhelming majority of people) are called “the non-elect” and cannot be saved.



**Election** (according to the non-Calvinist) – before He created the world, God determined to die for the whole world, thus establishing the potential that “all” could be saved. Whosoever responds to the conviction and call of the Holy Spirit are saved (small minority of people) and are called “the elect.”



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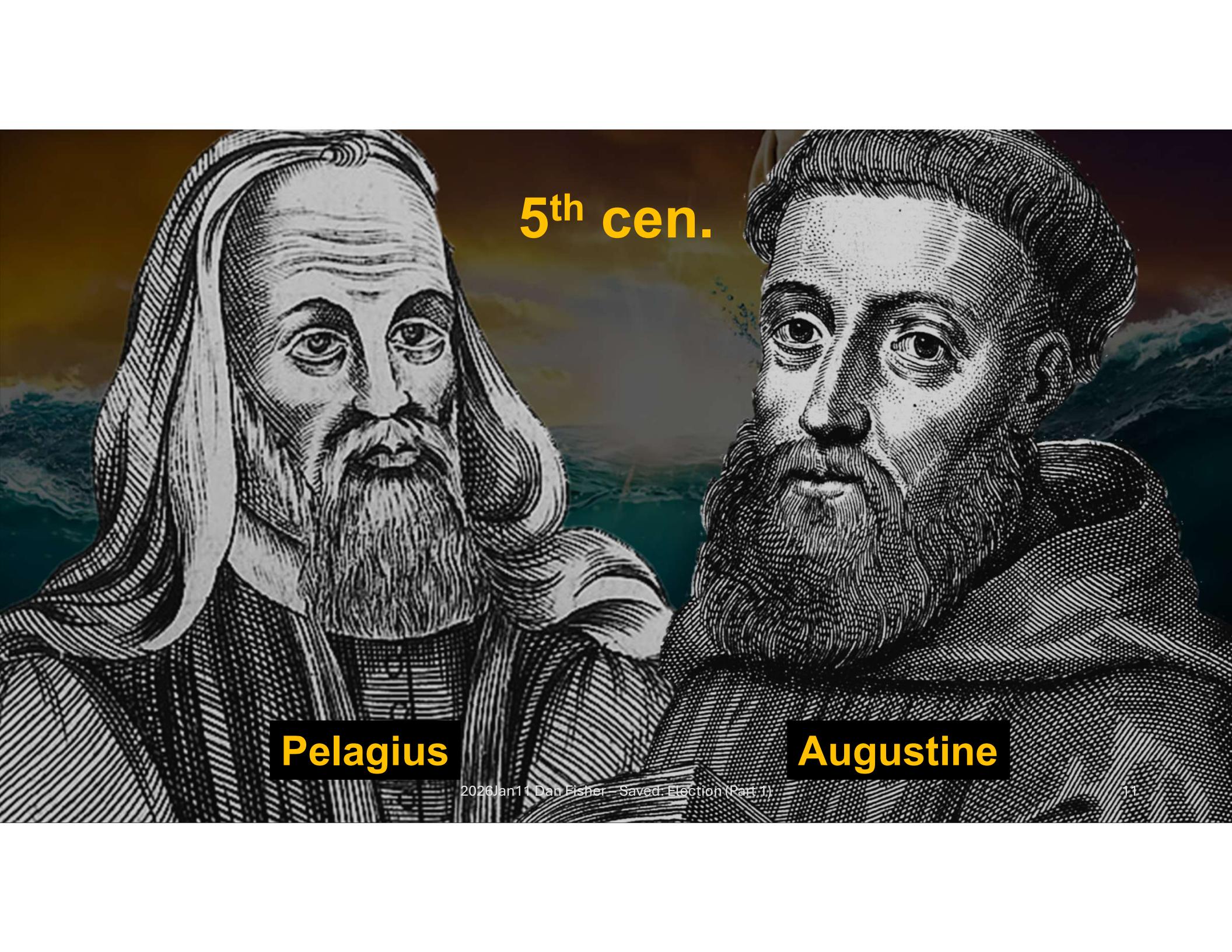


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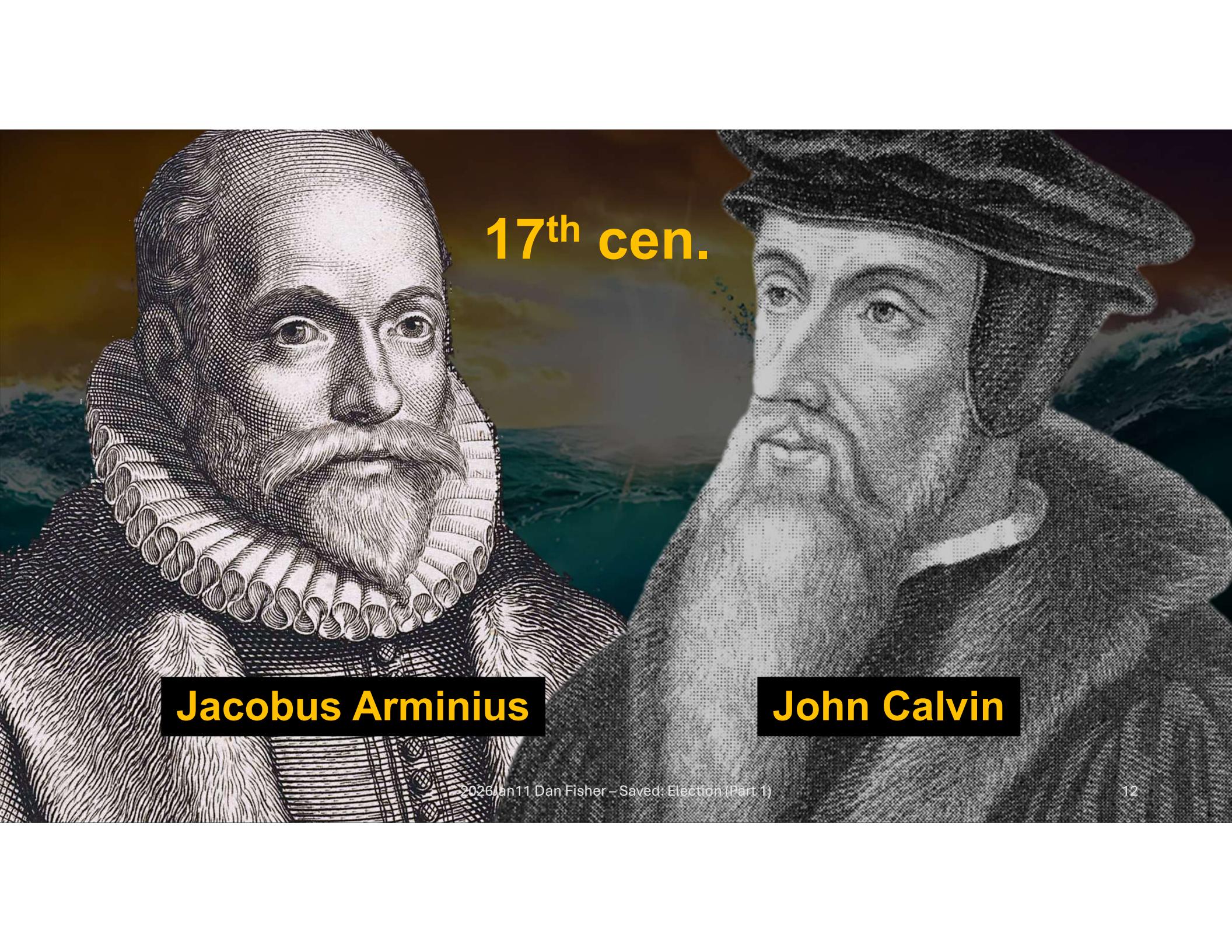
A black and white engraving of two men, Pelagius and Augustine, standing side-by-side. Pelagius on the left has a long, thin beard and is wearing a simple, draped garment. Augustine on the right has a full, bushy beard and is also in a draped garment. They are set against a background of a landscape with hills and a body of water. A yellow rectangular box is overlaid on the image, containing the text '5th cen.'

5<sup>th</sup> cen.

**Pelagius**

**Augustine**

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17<sup>th</sup> cen.

**Jacobus Arminius**

**John Calvin**

Other than to theologians  
arguing the “finer points” of the  
Christian faith in dusty seminary  
libraries, why should this  
debate matter?

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“For God so loved the **world**, that he gave his only Son, that **whoever** believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” **Jn 3:16**

“The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that **any** should perish, but that **all** should reach repentance.” **2 Pet 3:9**



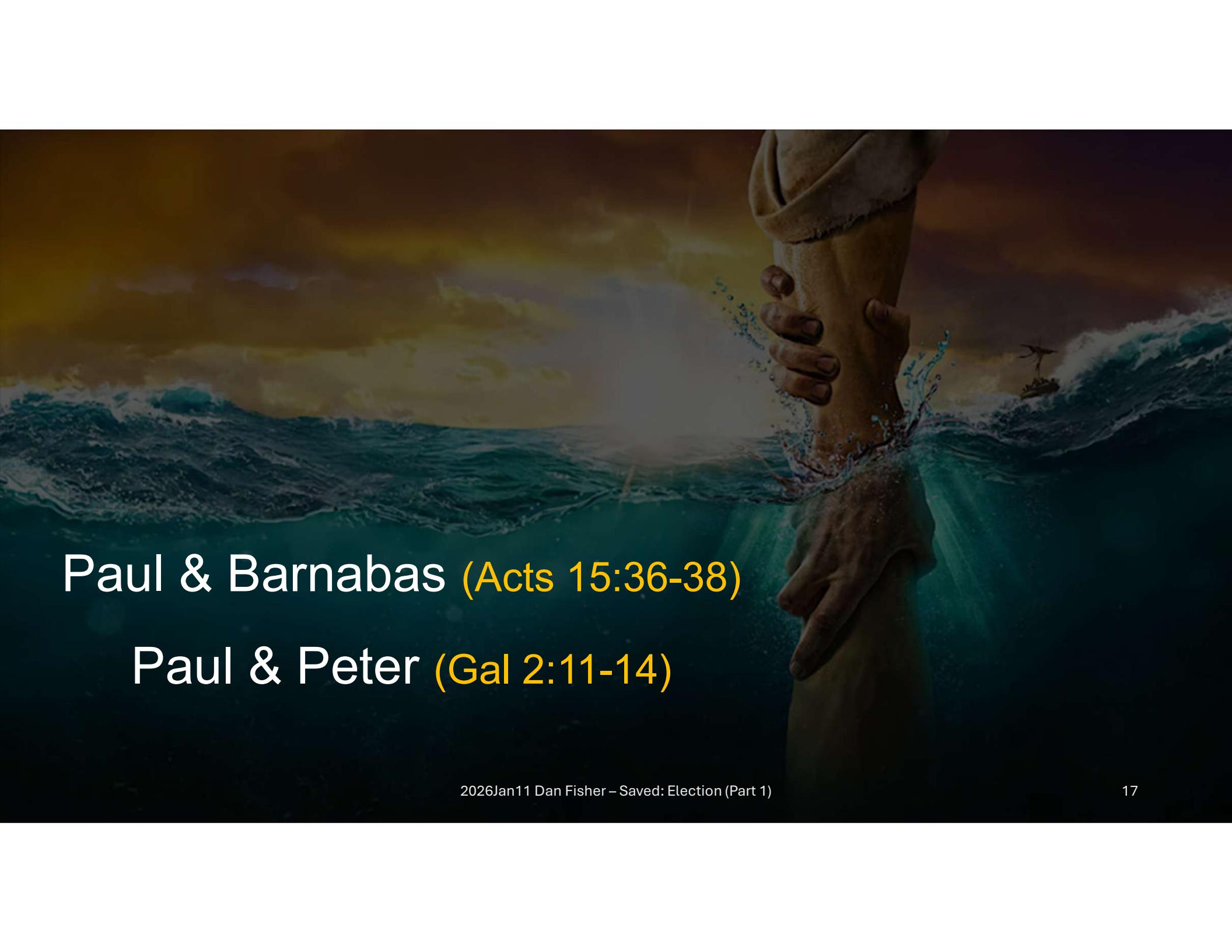
Do people have a free will and can resist or submit to the will of God, or is everything predetermined by God and human will is essentially a moot point?

“Creatures are so governed by the secret counsel of God, that nothing happens but what He has knowingly and willingly decreed.” John Calvin, *Institutes of Christian Religion*, Book 1, Chapter 16, Paragraph 3



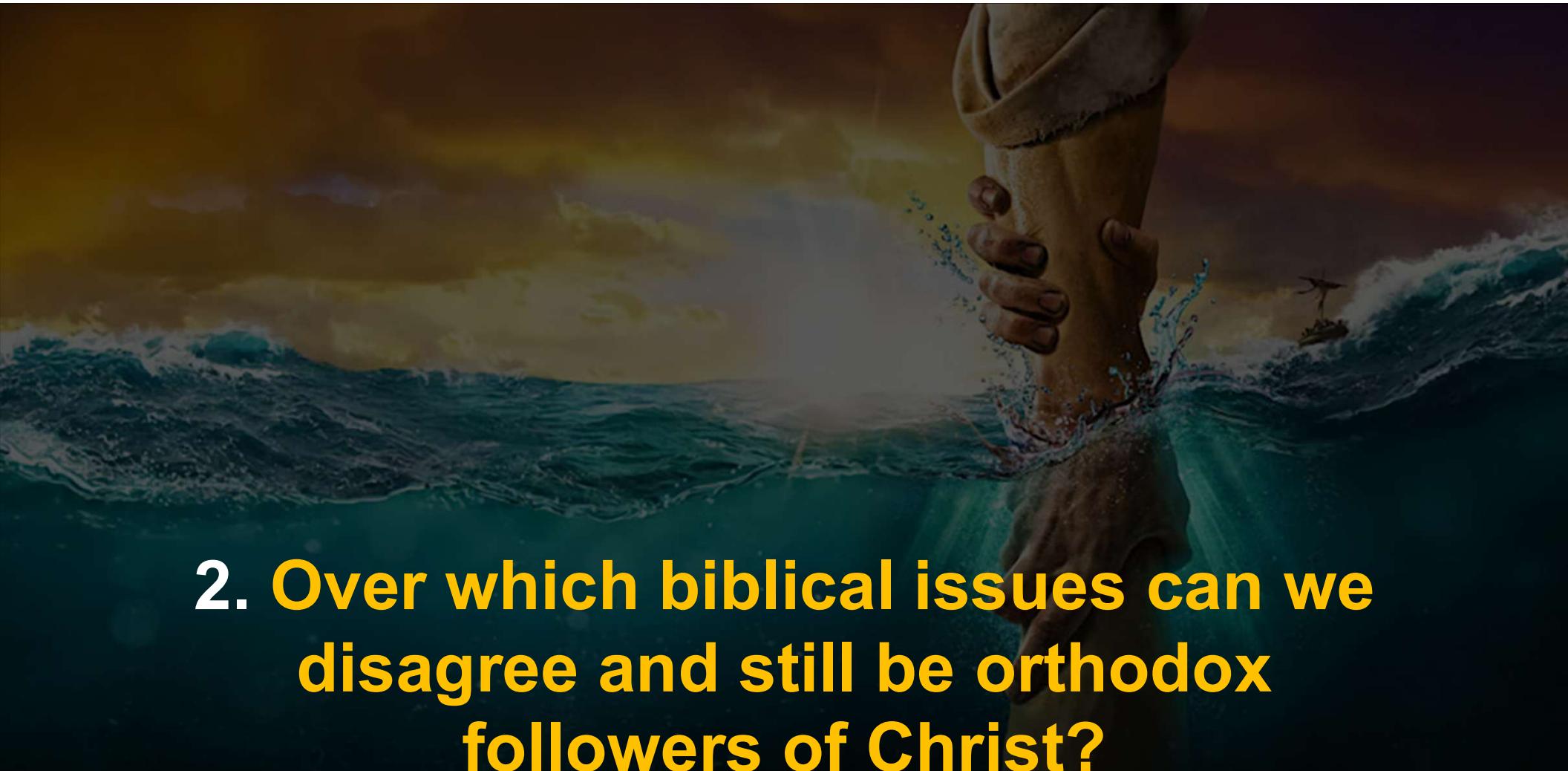
A dramatic illustration of a person in a life vest holding a child above turbulent ocean waves under a dramatic sky.

# 1. Are disagreements among believers always unspiritual/unhealthy?



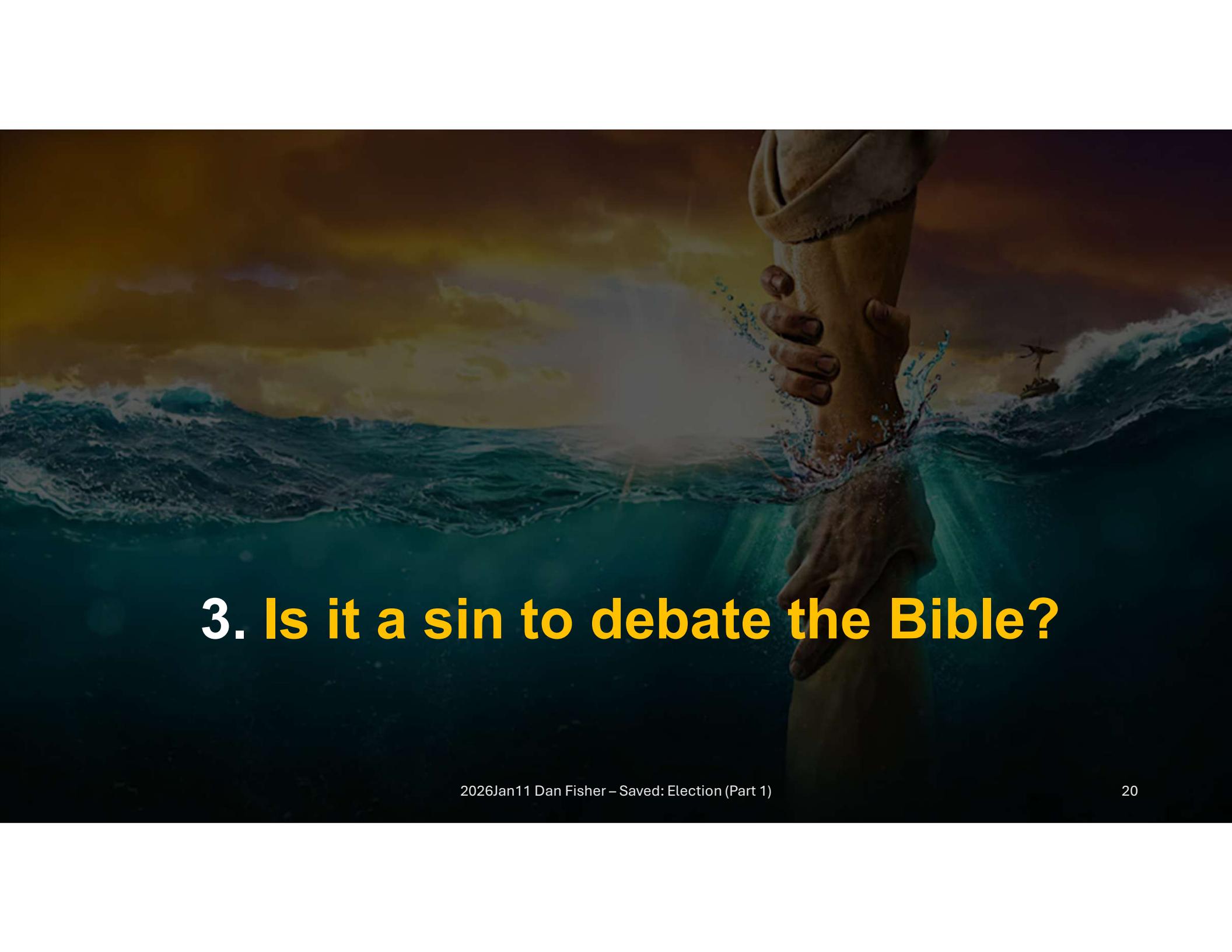
Paul & Barnabas (Acts 15:36-38)

Paul & Peter (Gal 2:11-14)

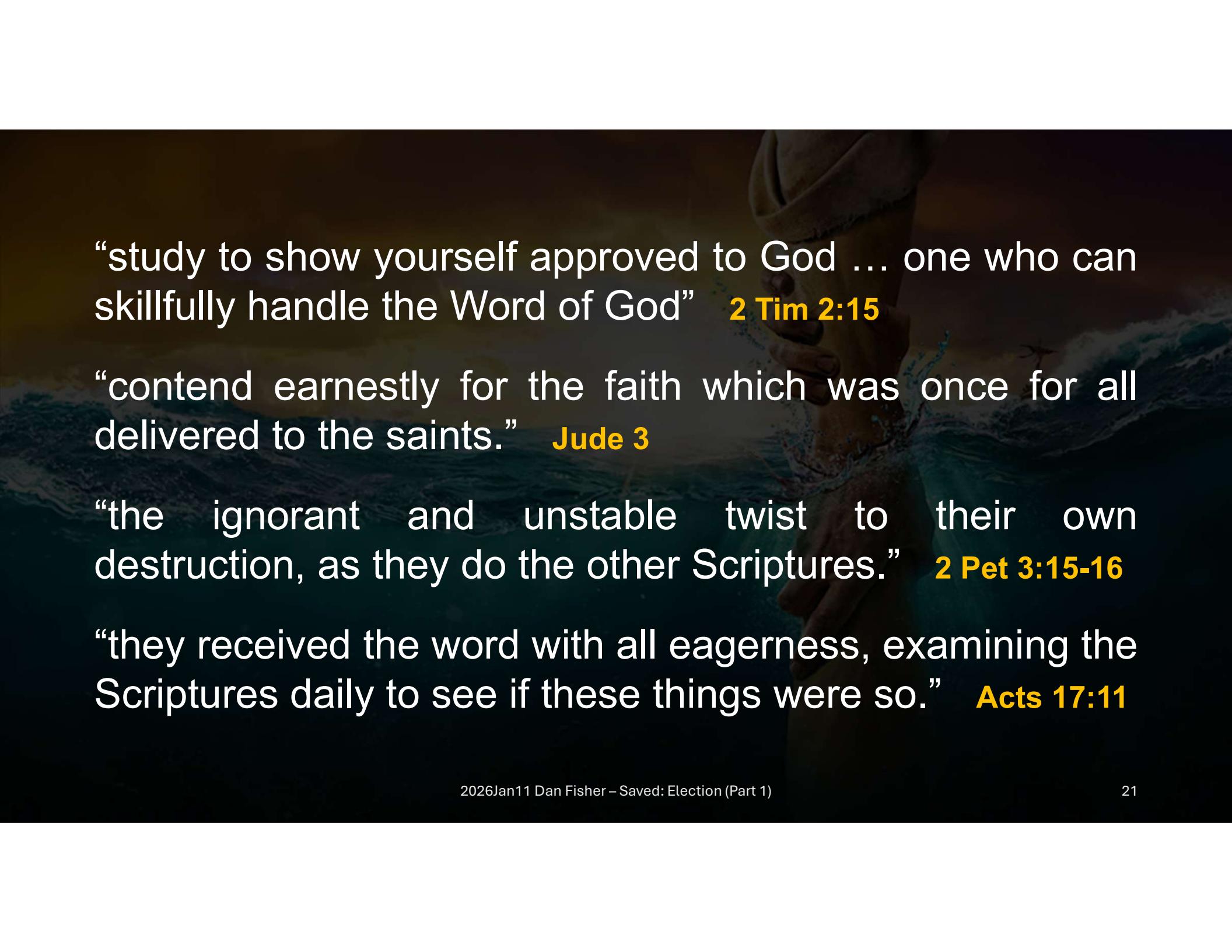


## 2. Over which biblical issues can we disagree and still be orthodox followers of Christ?

- Essentials vs. nonessentials
- **Essentials:** core doctrines that define historic Christianity – divinity of Jesus, inerrancy of Scripture, means of salvation, etc.
- **Nonessentials:** secondary, yet important issues that do not directly affect core doctrines – Eschatology, spiritual gifts, election, eternal security, etc.
- In essentials **unity**, in nonessentials **liberty**, and in all things **charity**

A dramatic illustration of a hand reaching out from the depths of a dark, stormy ocean. The hand is partially submerged, with water splashing around it. In the background, a small boat with a single occupant and a bird are visible on the horizon under a sky filled with dark, turbulent clouds.

### 3. Is it a sin to debate the Bible?

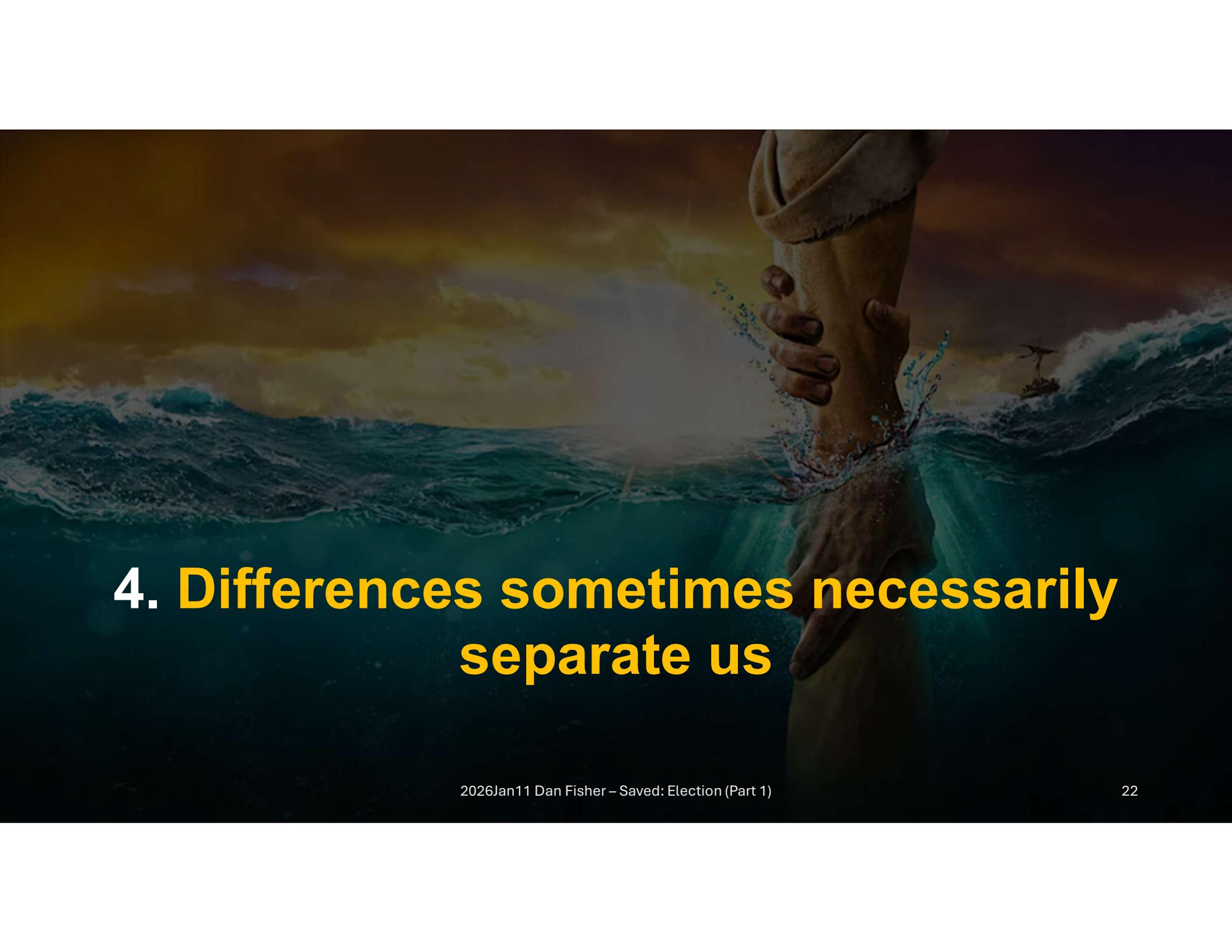


“study to show yourself approved to God … one who can skillfully handle the Word of God” **2 Tim 2:15**

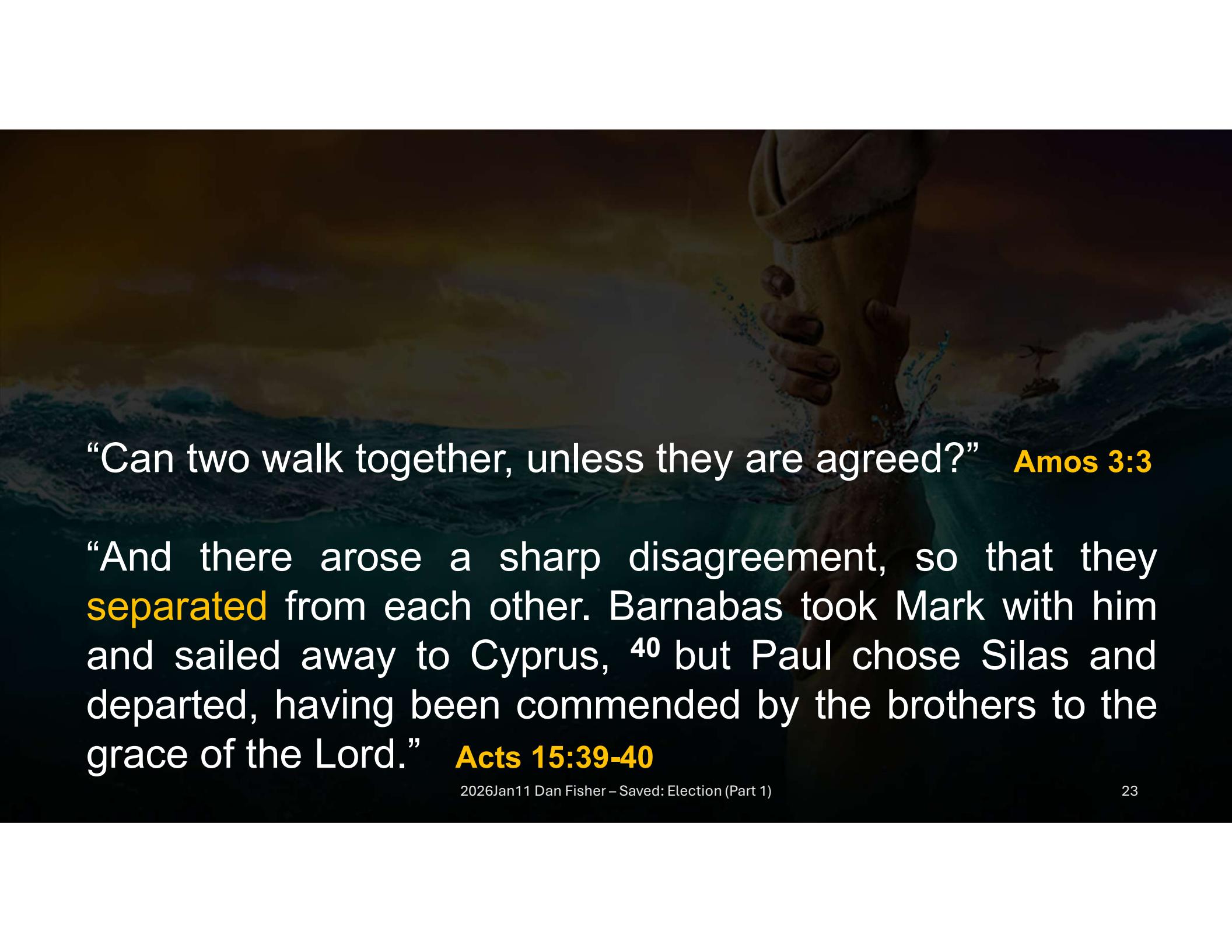
“contend earnestly for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.” **Jude 3**

“the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do the other Scriptures.” **2 Pet 3:15-16**

“they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so.” **Acts 17:11**

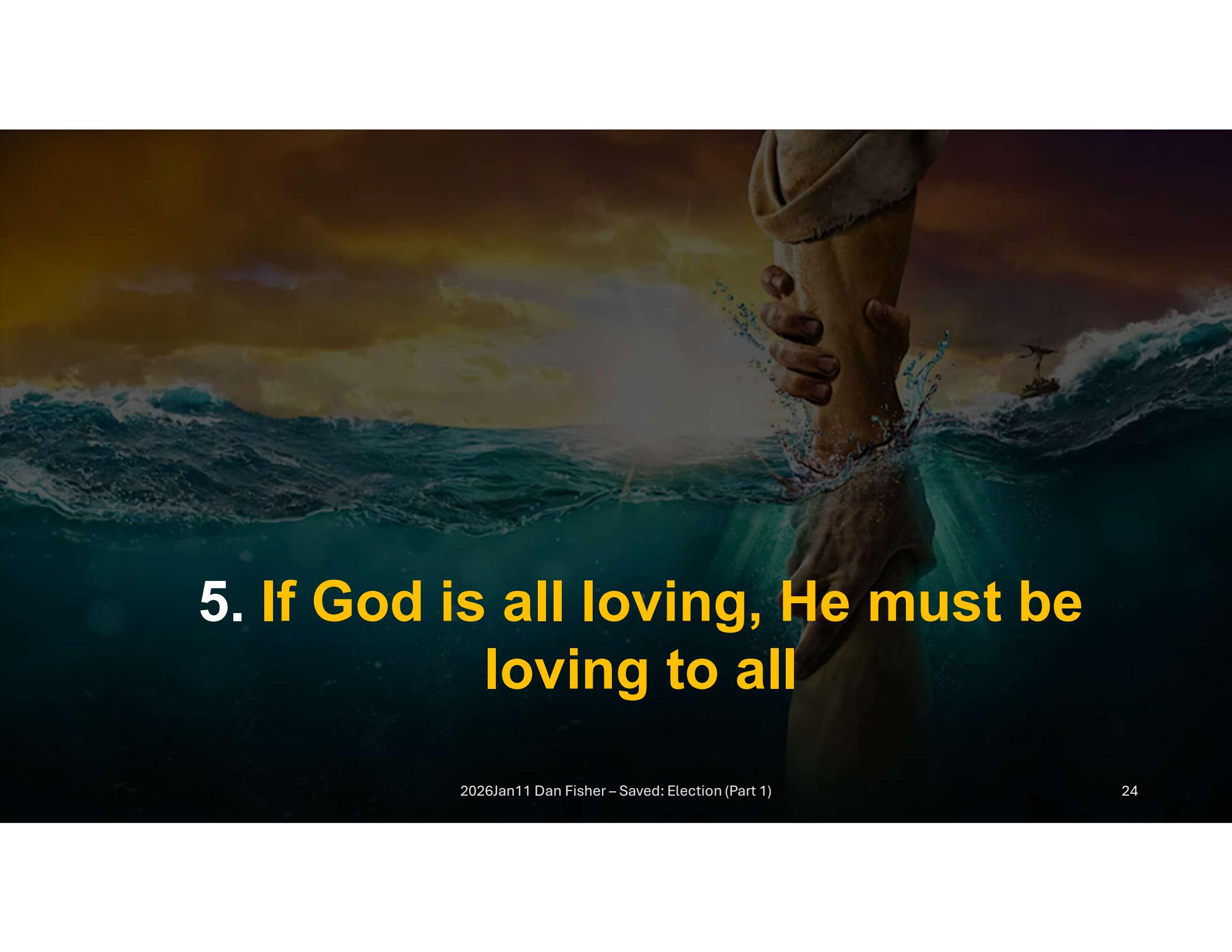


## 4. Differences sometimes necessarily separate us

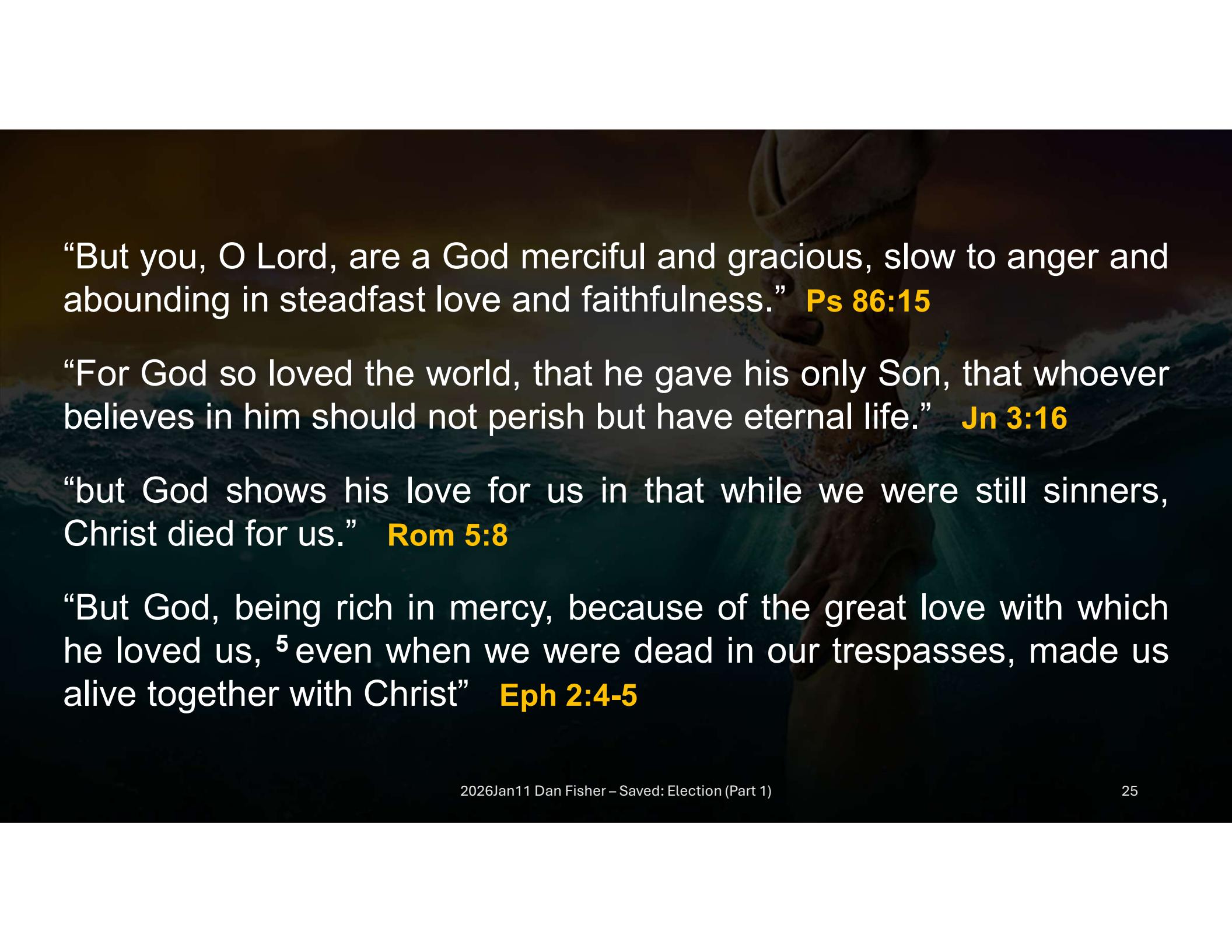


“Can two walk together, unless they are agreed?” **Amos 3:3**

“And there arose a sharp disagreement, so that they **separated** from each other. Barnabas took Mark with him and sailed away to Cyprus, <sup>40</sup> but Paul chose Silas and departed, having been commended by the brothers to the grace of the Lord.” **Acts 15:39-40**

A dramatic illustration of a person in a life vest holding a child above turbulent ocean waves under a dramatic sky.

## 5. If God is all loving, He must be loving to all

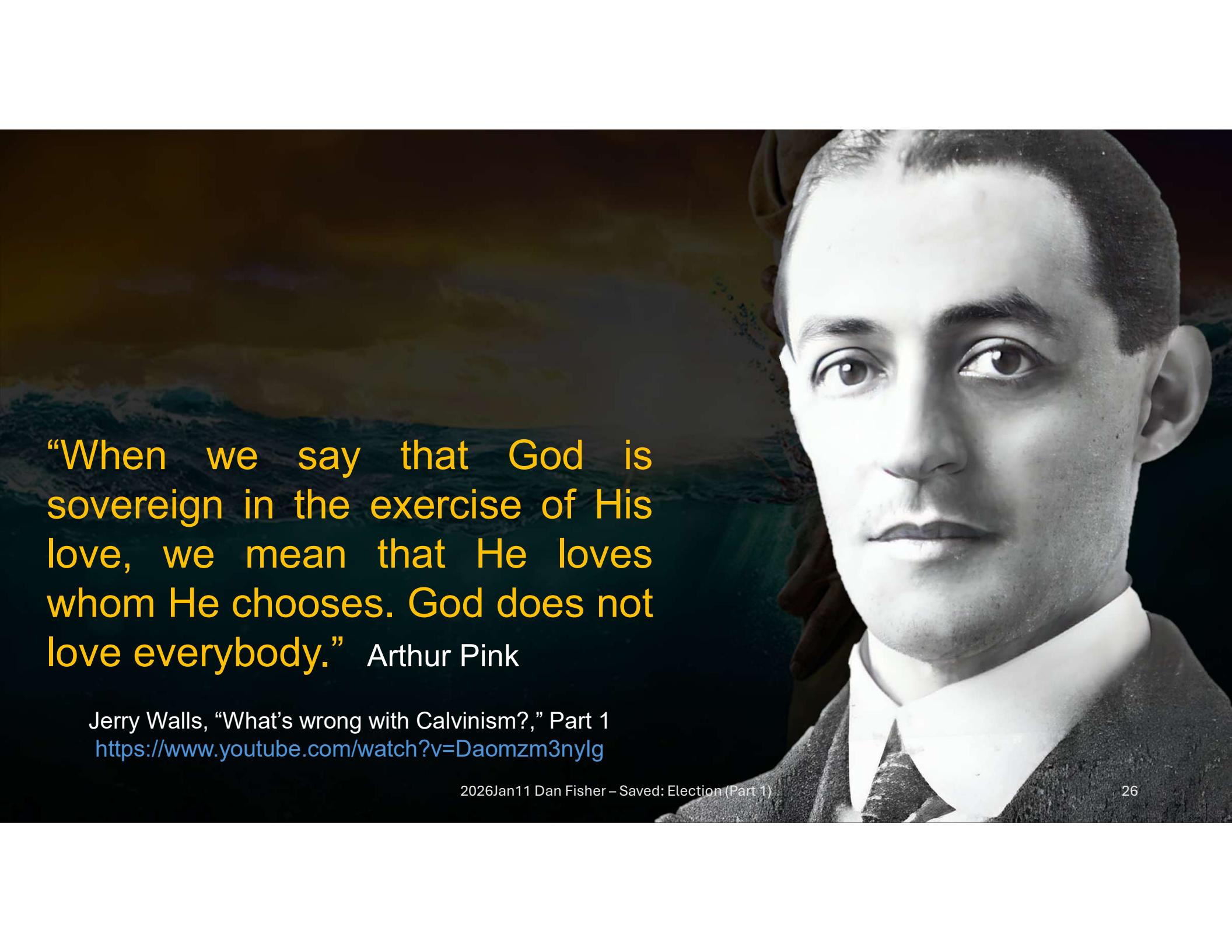


“But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.” **Ps 86:15**

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” **Jn 3:16**

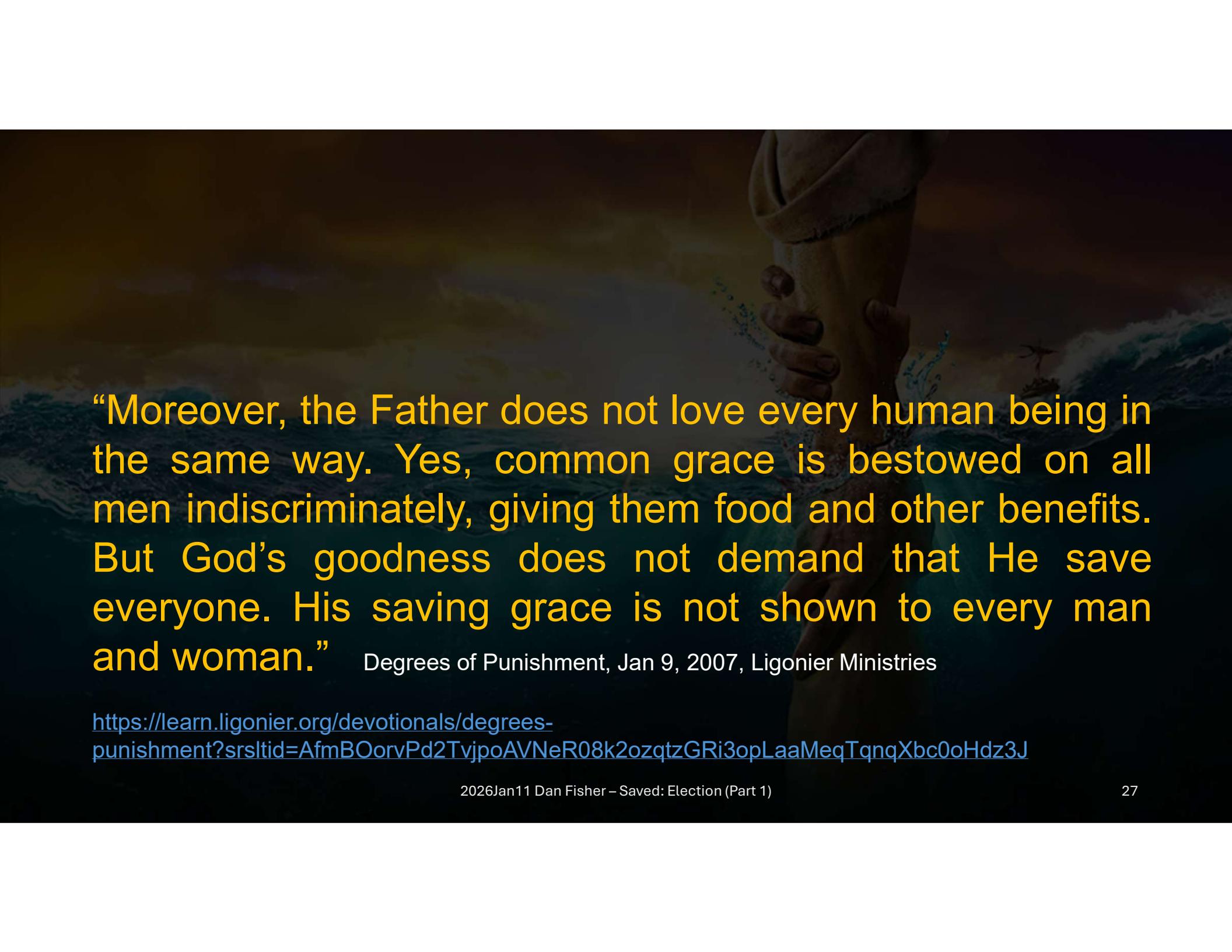
“but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” **Rom 5:8**

“But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, <sup>5</sup>even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ” **Eph 2:4-5**

A black and white portrait of Arthur Pink, a man with dark hair and a mustache, wearing a suit and tie. He is looking slightly to the left of the camera with a thoughtful expression. The background is a dark, textured surface.

“When we say that God is sovereign in the exercise of His love, we mean that He loves whom He chooses. God does not love everybody.” Arthur Pink

Jerry Walls, “What’s wrong with Calvinism?,” Part 1  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Daomzm3nylg>

A hand is shown from the right side of the frame, holding a long, thin scroll. The scroll is unrolled, showing a landscape scene with a large tree and a path. The background of the slide is a dark, cloudy sky.

“Moreover, the Father does not love every human being in the same way. Yes, common grace is bestowed on all men indiscriminately, giving them food and other benefits. But God’s goodness does not demand that He save everyone. His saving grace is not shown to every man and woman.”

Degrees of Punishment, Jan 9, 2007, Ligonier Ministries

<https://learn.ligonier.org/devotionals/degrees-punishment?srsltid=AfmBOorvPd2TvjpoAVNeR08k2ozqtzGRi3opLaaMeqTqnqXbc0oHdz3J>

“When I have preached or lectured in Reformed circles, I have often been asked the question, ‘Do you feel free to tell unbelievers that God loves them?’ ... I have no hesitation in answering this question from young Reformed preachers affirmatively: Of course I tell the unconverted that God loves them.” D. A. Carson

Jerry Walls, *Why I Am Not A Calvinist, Part 1*  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Daomzm3nylg>

## Calvinist Conundrum:

- To love someone is to desire the very best for them
- The very best for all people is to be in a right relationship with God
- If God determines who will be saved, He could have determined all to be saved
- God truly loves all people
- Therefore, all will be saved



## R. K. McGregor Wright:

“If God had elected to save everyone without exception, all would certainly be saved. But God never had the slightest intention of saving everyone. That is what the doctrine of election means in the first place: God chooses some but not all.



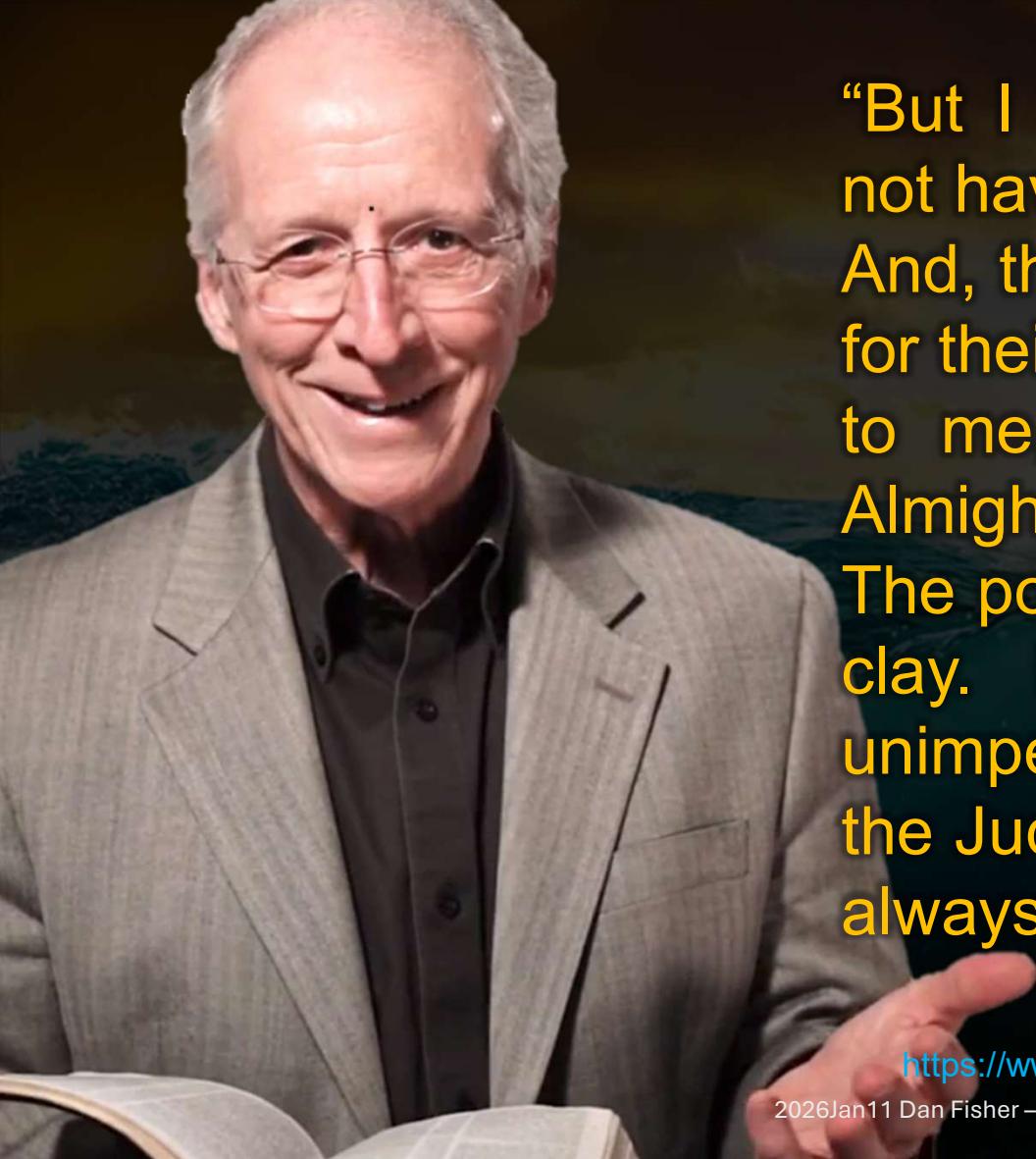
That God may have reasons of His own for choosing me for salvation and not my father (who as far as I know, died and atheist) may well be so, but it is certain that I did not supply Him with those reasons.”

Jerry Walls, *Why I Am Not A Calvinist, Part 1*  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Daomzm3nylg>



“God could have created men and women who freely ... did only what was morally right.” Paul Helm, Calvinist philosopher

Jerry Walls, *Why I Am Not A Calvinist, Part 1*  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Daomzm3nylg>



“But I am not ignorant that God may not have chosen my sons for His sons. And, though I think I would give my life for their salvation, if they should be lost to me, I would not rail against the Almighty. He is God. I am but a man. The potter has absolute rights over the clay. Mine is to bow before His unimpeachable character and believe the Judge of all the earth has ever and always will do right.” John Piper

“How Does A Sovereign God Love?”

<https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/how-does-a-sovereign-god-love>



“Interestingly, the title of the article in which Piper insists on adoring God who might consign his son to hell is ‘How Does A Sovereign God Love?’ We believe Piper has the question backward. ... Given the full revelation of God in Scripture, the question we should be asking is, ‘How Does A God of Perfect Love Express His Sovereignty?’”

2026Jan11 Dan Fisher – Saved: Election (Part 1)  
Jerry Walls, *Why I Am Not A Calvinist*, p. 219

“What if one of my kids is non-elect?’ That is not your department. ... It is of absolutely no benefit for me to twiddle my thumbs and worry whether or not my children are elect. That is not what I am called to – not at all. I can’t figure that out. Don’t tie yourself up in knots about that. ... Don’t ask questions you can’t answer. Preach the Gospel. ... What God decreed will come to pass.” Voddie Baucham

“Election and Predestination”

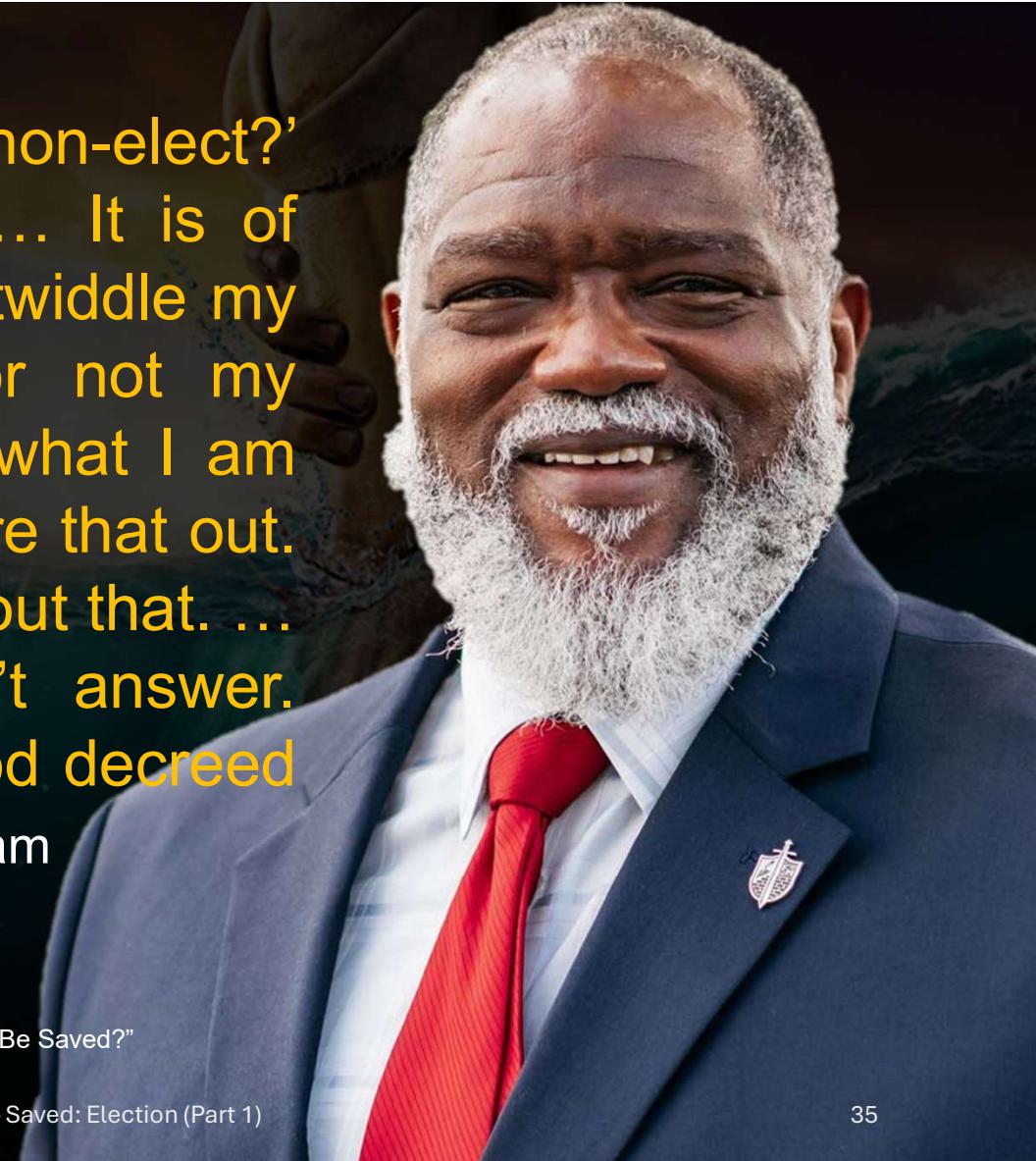
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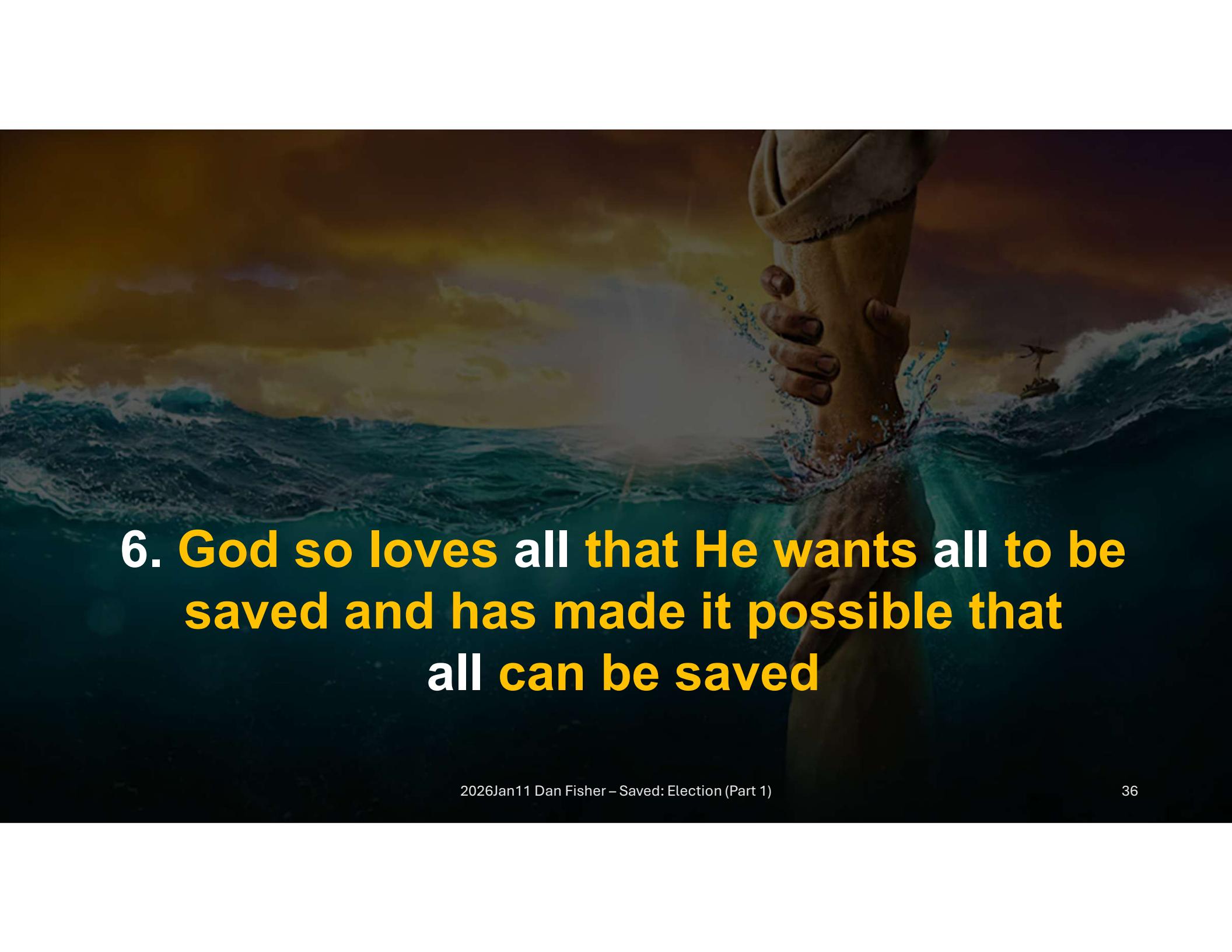
“Why Preach The Gospel If God Has Already Determined Who Will Be Saved?”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lSWiDwr-gml>

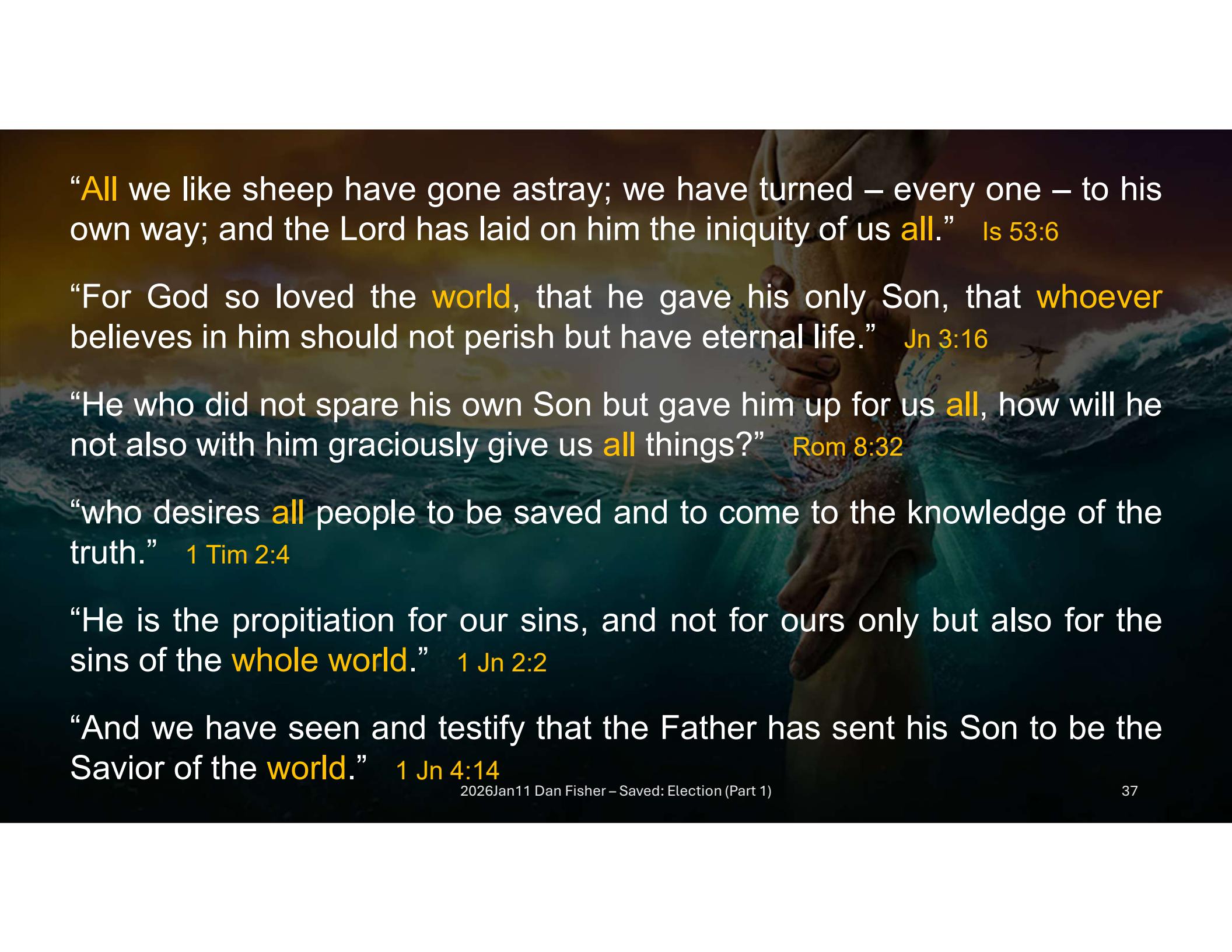
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6. **God so loves all that He wants all to be saved and has made it possible that all can be saved**



“All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned – every one – to his own way; and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.” Is 53:6

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.” Jn 3:16

“He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?” Rom 8:32

“who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.” 1 Tim 2:4

“He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.” 1 Jn 2:2

“And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world.” 1 Jn 4:14

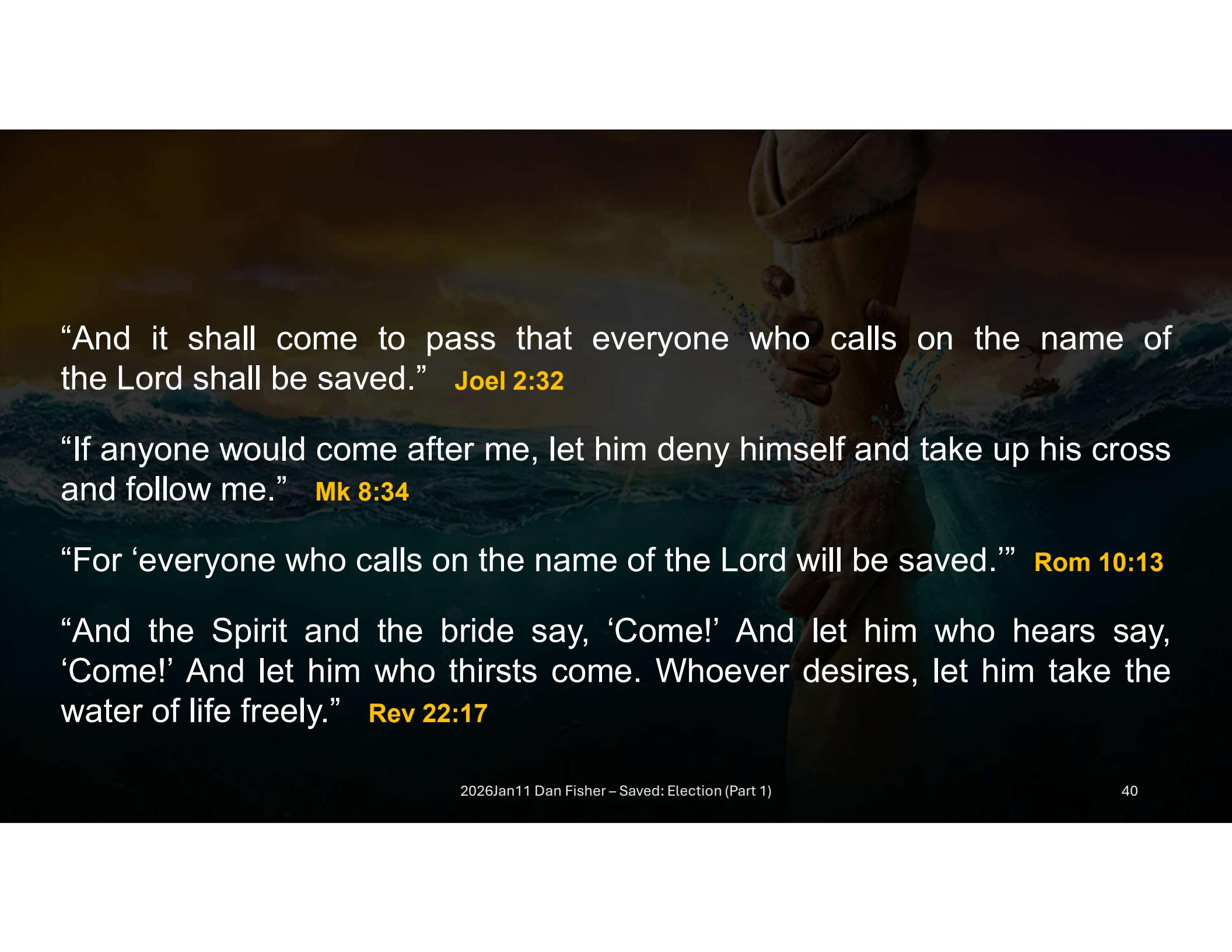


**All means all and that's all that all means.**



“Our case against Calvinism is that … it does not accurately portray the Holy One who is ‘compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love (Ps 103:8), the God for whom love is not merely an option or sovereign choice, but who is such that His eternal nature is love (1 Jn 4:8).”

Jerry Walls, *Why I Am Not A Calvinist*, pp. 219-220

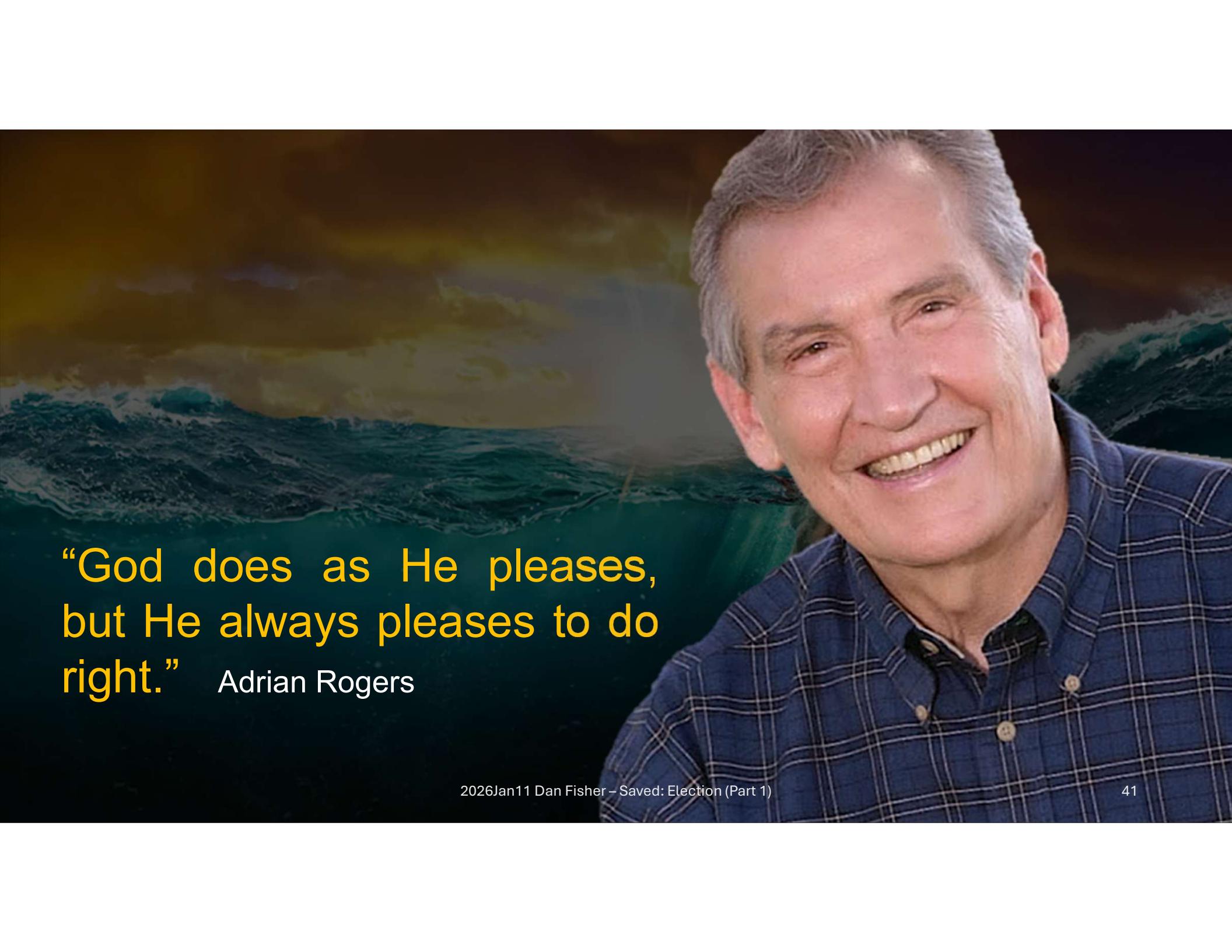
A hand is shown from the side, wearing a dark, textured glove. The hand is holding a small, ornate bell with a clapper visible inside. The background is a dark, moody scene of ocean waves crashing, with light reflecting off the water and the horizon.

“And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” **Joel 2:32**

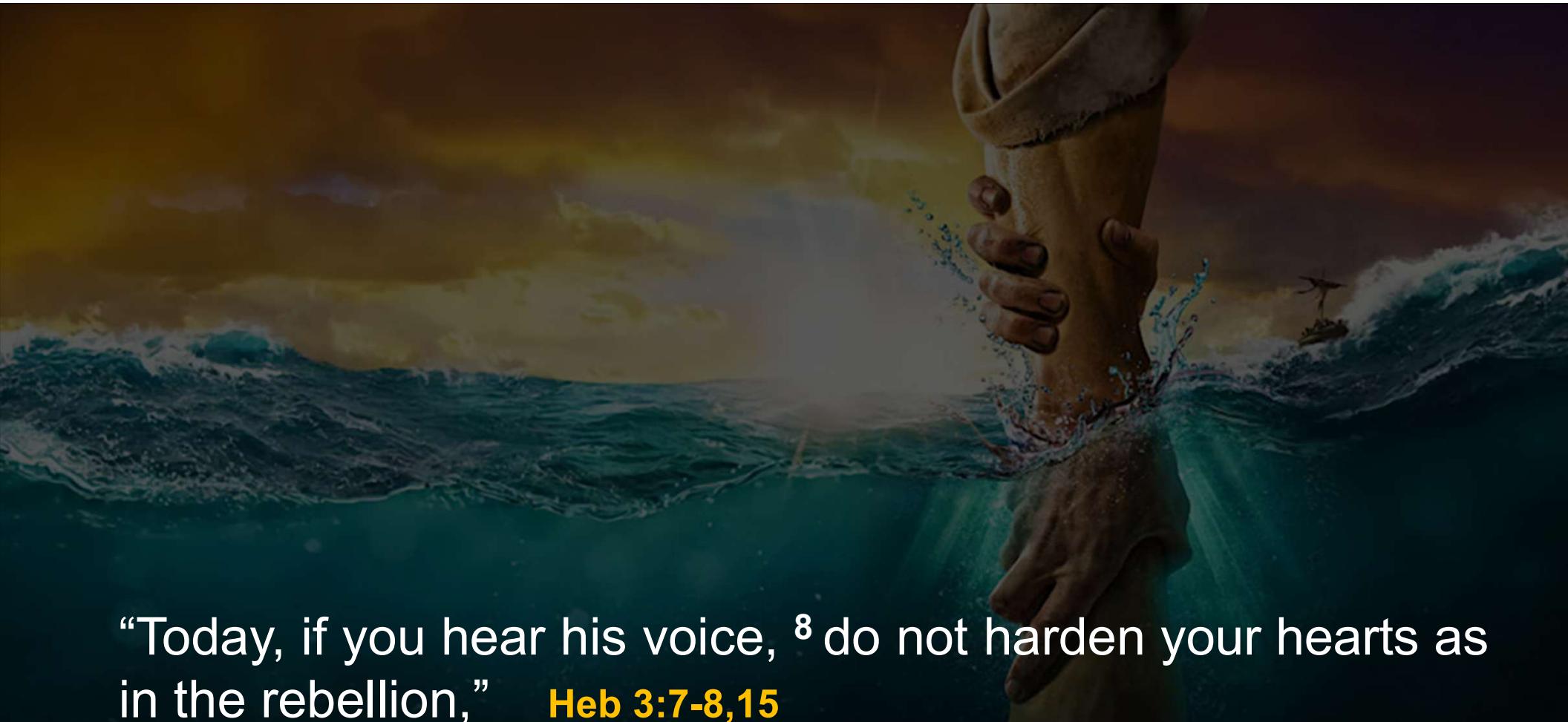
“If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.” **Mk 8:34**

“For ‘everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’” **Rom 10:13**

“And the Spirit and the bride say, ‘Come!’ And let him who hears say, ‘Come!’ And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.” **Rev 22:17**



“God does as He pleases,  
but He always pleases to do  
right.” Adrian Rogers



“Today, if you hear his voice, <sup>8</sup> do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion,”    **Heb 3:7-8,15**